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Tuesday, October 11, 2005

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**Parks Director Chosen President-Elect of  
American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration**

**INDIANAPOLIS** — Indy Parks and Recreation is proud to announce its director, Joseph Wynns, has been elected to the office of president-elect of the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (AAPRA) — the national organization that employs scholarly research to advance the practice of parks and recreation administration and management.

As president-elect, Wynns will help preside over all academy meetings and its board of directors, and will succeed the current president in 2007.

“Under Director Wynns’ leadership and management, Indy Parks has grown into a world class parks system, with superior programs, services and facilities that are setting a new standard in parks and recreation for other cities to follow,” said Mayor Bart Peterson.

Established in 1980, AAPRA acts as an advisory group to the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and produces the *Journal of Park and Recreation Administration*. AAPRA membership is limited to 125 professionals who have a minimum of 15 years of exceptional service in a high level of administration in a park and recreation agency. The AAPRA is also the sponsor of the *Gold Medal Award*, the national award for excellence in park and recreation management, for which Indy Parks and Recreation is one of four finalists among Long Beach and San Diego California, and Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Last year Wynns was elected to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees of NRPA. He is a member of The Dean’s Associates at the Indiana University School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER), and serves on the Coca-Cola Circle City Classic Executive Committee, the Indiana Sports Corporation Youth Committee, and the Black Coaches Association Advisory Board.

A Certified Park and Recreation Professional [CPRP], Wynns received his Certificate in Public Management from Indiana University, his Masters in Recreation Administration from Indiana State University, and his Bachelors in Health, Physical Education and Recreation from South Carolina State University, where he was recently inducted into the South Carolina State University Athletics Hall of Fame.

Mayor Peterson appointed Wynns Indy Parks Director in 2000. Director Wynns is currently overseeing the planning for the 2007 NRPA Congress, which will bring more than 10,000 park and recreation professionals to Indianapolis.

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